

## HOT SHOT FOR MAYOR HOOS

**JERSEY CITY MINISTERS DENOUNCE HIS OPEN SUNDAY SCHEME.**

The Mayor Not in Favor of a "Real Wide-Open" Sunday.—The Rev. Dr. Scudder Says His Church Dancing Classes Will Never, Never Meet on Sunday.—"This Is Not Germany," Says the Rev. Dr. Cox.

The ministers in Jersey City are still talking about Mayor Haec's declaration in favor of having theatres open on Sunday. The mayor realizes that he has stirred up something of a hornet's nest, and yesterday he said that he had not advocated a "wide-open" Sunday as strongly as some of the papers had represented.

"What I did say," said the Mayor, "is that I believe in sacred concerts on a Sunday afternoon or evening, that I know that these concerts take place in other orderly cities, and that they are never a subject of complaint. Referring to the Sunday question, I remarked that it was still unsettled, but that the tendency in this country at present was a liberal one, and that the Rev. John L. Scudder's ideas

"The Mayor of this city," said Dr. John L. Leudder, pastor of the Tabernacle, yesterday has made a statement which stirs up the righteous indignation of myself and people and now I propose to give his Honor a dose of the same.

ing classes in the People's Palace, he says: 'It wouldn't surprise me if these dancing classes wouldn't soon meet on Sundays as well as weekdays.' Now, let me say pointblank that the Mayor will never live to see the Palace dancing classes open on the Sabbath day. I resent such an implication with all the emphasis I can put on it and I now bid adieu to you.

[illegible]

"I am fundamentally opposed to the opening of theatres on Sunday, as are the people of my church, and I shall so declare from my pulpit next Sunday in no uncertain terms. The Mayor has made a gigantic blunder in declaring himself in favor of open theatres on the Sabbath. He will feel the effect of his indiscretion at the next election. And right here let me say that I condemn and despise the manner in which our dancing class has been

disrespected by seemingly pious people. The Rev. Gottlieb Andreae said that he also would not be surprised to see our Palace dance class open on Sundays, and that these classes were started with the idea of attracting people to the church. I brand the utterance as ungenerous and un-Christian. The dancing class has nothing whatever to do with the church. It does not meet on consecrated ground. It brings a casual, uncommitted, and unbalanced element into a sacred place.

separation under a separate Board of Managers, a separate treasury, and one department which furnishes to young people innocent amusement and wholesome surroundings. I realize that the sensational papers have been playing football with our dancing class, and have no objection to their capers, if it amuses them, but I will suffer no positive misstatements to go uncorrected and unrebuked. Football is a good game, although at times it is a little rough. I do not object to it. I used to

lay on the team myself when at dear old Yale and now I want everybody to play fair." The Rev. Sydney H. Cox, assistant pastor of the Tabernacle, who has been elected pastor of the Lee Avenue Congregational Church in Brooklyn, said:

"It needs no courage to make a declaration such as Mayor Hoos has made. It needs a degree of eccentricity of thought in order to secure no rise amid the crazes of modern progress. The

"I welcome them who want a Continental Sunday morning sermon to resemble that of the great American preachers," said Mr. Burleigh; "but I do not think it wise to have social and physical conditions so different as they were not, the Continental Sunday has never been very remarkable in cultivating the strong righteous spirit in national life."

"Vice objecting to competition forsooth propagating, and the pace is fast and furious and Vice welcomes competition always. It is all right! A hundred little bells flourish where only two

for three die out. The blue laws must go. The poor blue laws suffer much. They have made the status of the poor in the community more degrading. In England and Spain, the greatest and the oldest of the great modern powers in Europe. Better to have these still than to have municipal officers who work at crime and stealthily encourage law breaking because their own opinion does not agree with the statute. Why not dance on Sunday, too? Oh, well, why not have circus on Sunday, too?

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the question, but only incidentally. It is after all, a mechanical God sitting on a pedestal outside the world who has manufactured little toys called drowdrops to amuse the world in this all that nature does, merely amuse the world. The drowdrop gives a high moral character to the play, the play platform proposes the theatre is a wholesome substitute for the saloon and gambling hell, the Mayor says many a saloon keeper will justly object to such an invidious comparison. One might say that

"Pneumonia is a wholesome substitute for mumps on the ground that it is less loathsome. Our friends tell us that the theatre teaches more truth than the church. Well, I believe in the legitimate drama, grand operas and pure comedy, and I believe that the average actor or actress is no less pure than the average man or woman. But the theatre as it is at present conducted is hardly a substitute for religious training. Wholesome? Where? I could not believe at first," said the Rev.

Mr. W. B. Robinson, pastor of the Lafayette M. E. Church, said: "That the mayor had said what he had said was not in accordance with anything. Such a speech is an outrage on the Christian sentiment and decency of the community. I am surprised that the chief officer of the law, who was elected to take charge of all the forces of the government in this city, should openly acknowledge the violation of the law by a representative of the law as an honorable citizen. Such a speech is as much a violation of the law as any other speech that could be made."

The Rev. Benjamin Otto, pastor of the North Baptist Church, said: "There is no doubt that the Mayor's views on the advisability of opening the theatres on Sundays are entitled to consideration equally with those of other who may differ with him. Nevertheless, his statement cannot pass without sharp rebuke. To compare the sweet fragrance of a God-made rose with the rotten stench of much of the modern stage, and the crystalline beauty of the

room—Mr. Seudder to the contrary notwithstanding—is, to say the least, bad rhetoric. I shall not add it would have been more in point then, in spite of the fact that he is bound by his oath of office, he speaks of the well-known open saloon doors on Sundays as a thing to be winked at, thus intimating that if the theaters should be open contrary to law, he would wink at that, too.

**The Weather.**

There was a storm of increasing energy developing on the coast of North Carolina yesterday. The winds on the coast north of that section were blowing

ing from the northeast and becoming high. Rainfall was falling generally between Florida and New Jersey, and it was threatening, with a little rain, this section and New England. The storm is likely to move northeast and cause dangerous gales over the North Atlantic to-day. West of the Mississippi the weather was generally fair. It was slightly warmer in nearly all parts of the country. The freezing temperatures were confined to the Dakota region.

The temperature as recorded by the official thermometer and also by THE SUN's thermometer at the front porch shown in the annexed table:

—Official—		Sum's		—Official—		Sum's	
1898, 1897.		1898.		1898, 1897.		1898.	
12 A. M.	41°	34°	41°	6 P. M.	41°	37°	46°
12 M.	41°	31°	46°	6 P. M.	45°	35°	46°
8 P. M.	41°	35°	47°	12 Mid.	45°	34°	46°

WASHINGTON FORECAST FOR FRIDAY.

For New England, (rain); fresh to brisk *easterly*; fresh to brisk *westerly*.

For eastern New York, rain, followed by fair; fresh to brisk *easterly*.

For the District of Columbia, eastern Penna; Iva; New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, partly cloudy; fresh easterly winds.  
For western Penna; Iva, partly cloudy; increasing southeasterly winds.  
For western New York, generally fair; warmer; increasing southeasterly winds.